



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 4
ATLANTA FEDERAL CENTER
61 FORSYTH STREET
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303-8960

JUL 23 2003

4APT-APB

John Lyons, Director
Division of Air Quality
Department for Environmental Protection
KY Natural Resources & Environmental
Protection Cabinet
803 Schenkel Lane
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601

Art Williams, Director
Air Pollution Control District of Jefferson County
850 Barrett Avenue, Suite 200
Louisville, Kentucky 40204

Dear Mr. Lyons and Williams:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has reviewed the Louisville 1-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan formally submitted on June 27, 2003, to determine the adequacy of the motor vehicle emissions budgets (MVEB), pursuant to section 93.118(e)(4) of the Transportation Conformity Rule (40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 93, Subpart A). Because of a request for parallel processing for this State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision, USEPA began our initial review of the proposed SIP revision during the State and local air quality agencies' public comment period which concluded June 18, 2003.

The Transportation Conformity Rule identifies limited technical and administrative criteria that must be used in determining adequacy of submitted SIP MVEB for transportation conformity purposes. We have determined that the Louisville 1-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan contains adequate MVEB for the Kentucky portion of the Louisville maintenance area. In close coordination with Region 4 USEPA, Region 5 USEPA reviewed adequacy of the MVEB for the Indiana portion of the Louisville area and also determined the MVEB adequate. In a separate letter, Region 5 USEPA will provide its determination for the MVEB for the Indiana portion of the Louisville 1-hour ozone maintenance area.

The Louisville 1-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan has MVEB for both volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NOx) for the year 2012. This maintenance plan is a revision and update to the previously submitted 1-hour ozone maintenance plan for the Louisville area. These adequate MVEB replace the MVEB in the previous submittal, in accordance with the January 18, 2002, EPA guidance entitled, *Policy Guidance on the Use of MOBILE6 for SIP Development and Transportation Conformity*. This guidance explains that areas that opted to take credit for Tier 2 standards in the development of MOBILE5-based MVEB, must update

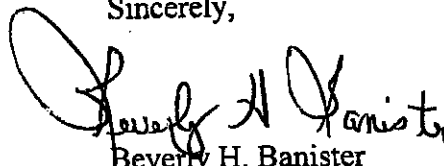
these MVEB within two years of the release of the MOBILE6 emissions model. Further, this guidance explains that once the updated MOBILE6-based MVEB are found adequate, they are to be used for the purpose of transportation conformity in place of the interim MOBILE5-based MVEB with Tier 2 credits incorporated.

This letter finds adequate the submitted 2012 MVEB for VOC of 47.28 tons per day (tpd) and for NOx of 111.13 tpd for the entire Louisville 1-hour ozone maintenance area. Kentucky's contribution to this MVEB, which includes an allocation from the available safety margins, is 42.26 tpd for VOC and 101.84 tpd for NOx. These MVEB have met the standard requirements that any MVEB must meet before it can be used to determine conformity for a transportation improvement program or long range transportation plan. This adequacy finding does not relate to the merits of the SIP submittals nor does it indicate whether the submittals meet the USEPA's requirements for approval of a maintenance plan.

The USEPA opened a comment period on the Louisville 1-Hour Ozone Maintenance Plan for the Kentucky SIP's adequacy by posting it to our web site on May 15, 2003. The web address is www.epa.gov/otaq/transp/conform/adequacy.htm. The comment period closed on June 27, 2003. USEPA will post a response to the comments received on the aforementioned website.

More information on SIPs and adequacy reviews is also available on the USEPA web site. It is expected that the USEPA will soon publish a notice in the Federal Register announcing this adequacy finding. If you have questions, please feel free to call me or Lynorae Benjamin of the Region 4 USEPA staff at (404) 562-9040.

Sincerely,



Beverly H. Banister

Director

Air, Pesticides, and Toxics
Management Division

cc: Bernadette Dupont, FHWA Kentucky Division
Jerry Franklin, FTA Region 4
James Codell, III, KYTC
Harold Tull, KIPDA